IN THE CLAIMS:

1-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A gas turbine engine assembly comprising:

a gas turbine engine comprising a compressor;

a pump; and

a ring manifold coupled in fluid communication with said pump, said ring manifold mounted within said gas turbine engine upstream from said compressor, said ring manifold comprising a plurality of circumferentially-spaced spray nozzles~~, at least one of said plurality of circumferentially-spaced spray nozzles operable to discharge a first liquid to facilitate removing particulate matter and a second liquid to facilitate reducing a rate of formation of particulate matter~~, wherein at least one of said plurality of circumferentially-spaced spray nozzles is oriented to discharge~~ at least one of the first liquid and the second~~ liquid radially inwardly such that at least a portion of said compressor is coated with the~~ first liquid and the second~~ liquid~~ discharged from said spray nozzles~~.

19. (currently amended) A gas turbine engine assembly in accordance with Claim 18, wherein said gas turbine engine assembly further comprises a starter motor configured to rotate said gas turbine engine while~~ at least one of~~ the~~ first liquid and the second~~ liquid is discharged from at least one of said spray nozzles.

20. (currently amended) A washing system for a gas turbine engine having a compressor, said washing system comprising:

a pump; and

a ring manifold configured to be coupled in fluid communication with said pump, said ring manifold mountable within said gas turbine engine upstream from the compressor, said ring manifold comprising a plurality of circumferentially-spaced spray nozzles, wherein at least one of said plurality of circumferentially-spaced spray nozzles is configured to be oriented to discharge liquid radially inwardly~~,~~

~~wherein at least one of said plurality of spray nozzles is operable to inject a first liquid to facilitate removing particulate matter and a second liquid to facilitate reducing a rate of formation of particulate matter~~.

21. (currently amended) A washing system for a gas turbine engine in accordance with Claim 20, wherein said plurality of circumferentially-spaced spray nozzles is configured to inject ~~the~~ a first liquid into the gas turbine engine before injecting ~~the~~ a second liquid into the gas turbine engine.

22. (currently amended) A washing system for a gas turbine engine in accordance with Claim 21, wherein said plurality of circumferentially-spaced spray nozzles is configured to inject the second liquid into the gas turbine engine such that the second liquid coats at least a portion of the gas turbine engine.

23. (currently amended) A washing system for a gas turbine engine in accordance with Claim 20, wherein said washing system comprises a starter motor configured to rotate the gas turbine engine while the ~~first~~ liquid is being discharged.